

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1363

By Turner M

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency personnel for their meritorious service to the State of Tennessee during the May 2010 flood.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal concerns to ensure the public safety and welfare, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty in service of public safety; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued the time-honored tradition of volunteerism through public service, dedicating their time and efforts to aiding those in emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) personnel responded to their neighbors' need for help in the wake of the epic flooding that struck Tennessee on May 1 and 2, 2010, and they deserve proper recognition for their heroism and willingness to risk themselves in order to save lives; and

WHEREAS, TWRA personnel performed a variety of tasks, most of which involved the deployment of boats of various sizes in multiple locations across the state; and

WHEREAS, many personnel were involved in search and rescue operations; however, several officers were involved in law enforcement support, public health checks, assistance with handicapped rescue assistance, pet rescues, and ferrying persons from federal, state, and local agencies to strategic locations. These activities involved the direct rescue of 391 persons; and

WHEREAS, TWRA efforts involved fifty-four officers and staff utilizing twenty-six boats in seven counties; these tasks were performed by personnel ranging from county officers to upper-level agency management; and

WHEREAS, in the Nashville area, these tasks were accomplished by working in close coordination with the Nashville Fire Department and Metro Police Department; the areas of concentration were hotel evacuations in the Opryland area and rescues in North and East Nashville and the Bellevue community; and

WHEREAS, close cooperation between TWRA and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, Nashville Office of Emergency Management, Nashville Fire Department, and the Metro Police Department made this operation a success and an example of how all first-responders and law enforcement personnel can come together in this type of crisis; and

WHEREAS, TWRA personnel performed their duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism; they epitomize the spirit and commitment that characterize true Tennesseans, and their service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency personnel for their meritorious service to the State of Tennessee during the May 2010 flood and offer our sincere thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.